

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Cont. Appln. No. 1 of 09/969,114, Group No.: Not yet assigned
filed October 1, 2001
Examiner: Not yet assigned
Applicant: Clive Hohberger et al.
Serial No.: Not yet assigned Attorney
Docket No.: 7887/83889
Filed: Herewith
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
ASSOCIATING ON DEMAND
CERTAIN SELECTED MEDIA AND
VALUE-ADDING ELEMENTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-captioned application, please enter this
amendment.

In The Claims:

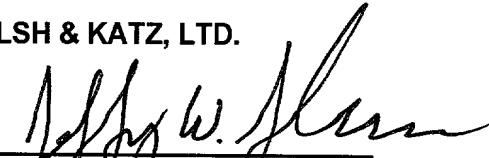
Please cancel claims 14-140 and 153-172 without prejudice. Exhibit A that is attached
hereto is entitled "Clean Set Of Pending Claims Following Entry Of This Amendment."

REMARKS

Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a teleconference would expedite that prosecution of this application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney at his convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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EXHIBIT A

CLEAN SET OF PENDING CLAIMS FOLLOWING ENTRY OF THIS AMENDMENT

1. A media printer, comprising in combination:
means for moving a plurality of media samples from a supply of media samples;
means for printing information on at least selected ones of said media samples;

and

means for attaching a value-adding device to only selected ones, but not all, of
said media samples.

2. The media printer of claim 1 wherein said value-adding devices comprise radio
frequency identification transponders.

3. The media printer of claim 2 further comprising means for determining whether
said radio frequency identification transponders are defective or misprogrammed.

4. The media printer of claim 3 further comprising means for causing a failure
indicia to be printed on a surface of each one of said media samples to which a defective or
misprogrammed radio frequency identification transponder is attached.

5. The media printer of claim 1 wherein a plurality of value-adding devices are
attached to at least one of said plurality of media samples.

6. The media printer of claim 1 wherein said media samples are selected from a
group consisting of labels, tickets, tags, and cards.

7. A media printer, comprising in combination:

a media supply and a media exit;
a generally continuous web that operably interconnects said media supply and said media exit so that a plurality of media samples are moved from said media supply to said media exit during operation;

a printhead that is mounted in operative relation to said generally continuous web to print information on selected portions of a first surface of each one of said media samples; and

an applicator mechanism that is mounted in operative relation to said generally continuous web to attach a value-adding device to a second surface of selected ones of said media samples after information has been printed on the first surface of said selected ones of said media samples by said printhead.

8. The media printer of claim 7 wherein said value-adding devices comprise radio frequency identification integrated circuits adopted to make contact with an antenna structure on said media samples to form radio frequency identification transponders.

9. The media printer of claim 7 wherein said value-adding devices comprise radio frequency identification transponders.

10. The media printer of claim 9 further comprising a verification mechanism that is operably disposed with respect to said generally continuous web to verify the operability of at least some of said radio frequency identification transponders.

11. The media printer of claim 10 wherein said verification mechanism causes failure indicia to be printed on the first surface of each one of said media samples to which an inoperable radio frequency identification transponder is attached.

12. The media printer of claim 7 wherein a value-adding device is attached to less than all of said plurality of said media samples.

13. The media printer of claim 7 wherein said media samples are selected from a group consisting of labels, tickets, tags, and cards.

141. An on-demand printer for printing information on a series of labels, tickets, tags, cards or other media, comprising:

a media feeder; and

means for associating a discrete value-adding element with certain media, but not with other media, in a series of said media.

142. The printer of claim 141 wherein said element is a radio frequency identification integrated circuit adopted to make contact with an antenna structure on said media to form a radio frequency identification transponder.

143. The printer of claim 141 wherein said value-adding element is an RFID transponder or other wireless or other wireless transponder.

144. The printer of claim 143 further comprising means for communicating with said transponder.

145. The printer of claim 144 wherein said communicating step comprises (i) testing, identifying, or discerning a characteristic of the transponder, (ii) reading information stored in the transponder, or (iii) writing information into the transponder.

146. The printer of claim 141 further comprising means for processing said media before said value-adding element is associated with said selected media.

147. The printer of claim 146 wherein said means for processing includes a printing apparatus.

148. The printer of claim 147 wherein said value-adding element is an RFID transponder or other wireless or other wireless transponder, and wherein said printer or printer accessory includes means for communicating with said transponder.

149. The printer of claim 148 wherein said printing apparatus is responsive to said means for communicating and prints a result of said communicating with said transponder.

150. The printer of claim 148 wherein said printing apparatus is responsive to said means for communicating and prints an indication of a defect or another characteristic or attribute of said transponder.

151. The printer of claim 148 wherein said printing apparatus is responsive to said means for communicating and prints information based on data read from or stored in said transponder.

152. The printer of claim 142 wherein said means for associating is controlled by a computer program.